

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Ichiro MIZUSHIMA)
) Group Art Unit: Not assigned
Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned)
) Examiner: Not assigned
Filed: June 30, 2003)
)
For: **METHOD OF PURGING**)
SEMICONDUCTOR)
MANUFACTURING)
APPARATUS AND METHOD
OF MANUFACTURING
SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE
being a Continuation of PCT
International Application No.
PCT/JP02/08742 filed August
29, 2002

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56 and 1.97(b), applicant brings to the Examiner's attention the documents listed on attached Form PTO-1449 and cited in the international search report. Copies of the listed documents are attached. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the documents listed on attached Form PTO-1449 and indicate that they were considered by making an appropriate notation on this form.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the above-referenced application.

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The following is a concise statement of relevance of the non-English language documents:

1. Japanese Patent Application No. 6-163485 discloses the removal of residual halogen by He plasma.
2. Japanese Patent Application No. 5-315297 discloses the removal of halogenated etching gas by introducing an activated hydrogen gas after cleaning of a chamber.
3. Japanese Patent Application No. 5-302172 discloses passing an inert gas, etc., through a furnace in which a heater is energized to remove halogen.

The following are also listed on the accompanying PTO-1449 and are in a non-English language:

4. Japanese Patent Application No. 63-70428
5. Japanese Patent Application No. 2-190472
6. Japanese Patent Application No. 1-152274
7. Japanese Patent Application No. 5-259133

In lieu of a statement of relevance or translation of non-English documents 1 and 4-7 above, enclosed is an English-language international search report from the Japanese Patent Office in the priority application citing these documents and setting forth the relevance thereof.

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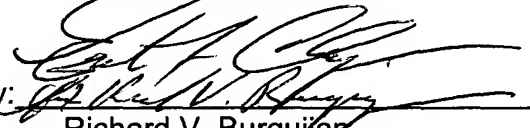
This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents. Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: June 30, 2003

By: 
Richard V. Burgujian
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Enclosures
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

Atty. Docket No.	04329.3083	Serial No.	
Applicant	Ichiro MIZUSHIMA		
Filing Date	June 30, 2003	Group:	Not assigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initial*		Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate
		5,963,834	10/5/99	Hatano et al.			
		5,609,721	3/11/97	Tsukune et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No
		6-163485	6/10/94	Japan			
		5-315297	11/26/93	Japan			
		5-302172	11/16/93	Japan			
		1-152274	6/14/89	Japan			
		5-259133	10/8/93	Japan			
		63-70428	3/30/88	Japan			
		2-190472	7/26/90	Japan			

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)	

Examiner	Date Considered
*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	
Form PTO 1449	Patent and Trademark Office - U.S. Department of Commerce